

DATE 11-6-07

APPLICATION NUMBER 06/137880

DOC CODE TERM-P70-L71

DOC DATE 5-28-96

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MAY 28 1996



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER  
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Ronald L. Wilson, Director  
Health Assessment Policy Staff  
Office of Health Affairs (HFY-20)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 11-44  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The attached application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 4,637,994, which issued January 20, 1987, was filed on April 19, 1996, under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

The assistance of your Office is requested in confirming that the product identified in the application, LA-15® System, has been subject to a regulatory review period within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(g) before its first commercial marketing or use and that the application for patent term extension was filed within sixty days after the product was approved. Since a determination has not been made whether the patent in question claims a product which has been subject to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, this communication is NOT to be considered as notice which may be made in the future pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Our review of the application to date indicates that the subject patent would be eligible for extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Bernstein".

Hiram A. Bernstein  
Senior Legal Advisor  
Special Program Law Office  
Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
for Patent Policy and Projects

(703) 305-9285

cc: Louis Gubinsky  
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